

What is claimed is:

1. A sling seat, comprising:

5 a plurality of flexible layers of material, with each layer having a top side, a bottom side, a front edge, a rear edge, and a pair of generally parallel side edges, with each of said side edges of said layers fastened together to form a pair of generally parallel side seams;

10 and means for separately support each side seam to form a sling seat,

characterized in that each of said flexible layers of material has a non-uniform stiffness, and at least one flexible pad is located between each of said layers of material.

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2. The seat of claim 1, wherein said flexible layers of material are held in tension.

3. The seat of claim 1, wherein said flexible pads are held in compression.

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4. The seat of claim 1, wherein said flexible pads are constructed from foam rubber.

5. The seat of claim 1, wherein said flexible pads are constructed from sheet rubber which contains a plurality of protrusions for spacing said flexible layers apart.

6. A sling seat assembly for use by a person seated in a wheelchair having a solid horizontal support, said seat comprising:

a first flexible layer having first means for accommodating the ischial tuberosities of a person seated on said assembly;

a second flexible layer , located adjacent to said first layer, having second means aligned with said first accommodating means for accommodating the ischial tuberosities of the person;

characterized in that said seat assembly further includes a third flexible layer located adjacent to said second layer on the side opposite said first layer, having third means aligned with said first and second accommodating means for accommodating the ischial tuberosities of the person;

a fourth flexible layer, located adjacent to said third layer on the side opposite said second layer, having fourth means aligned with said first, second, and third accommodating means for accommodating the ischial tuberosities of the person;

and a rigid planar layer, located adjacent to said fourth layer on the side opposite said third layer, having fifth means aligned with said first, second, third and fourth accommodating means for accommodating the ischial tuberosities of the person;

whereby when said assembly is placed upon a solid horizontal support associated with a wheelchair, said assembly performs as a sling seat for a person seated upon said assembly.

7. The assembly of claim 6, wherein said first flexible layer contains a downwardly extending portion.
8. The assembly of claim 6, wherein said first flexible layer is constructed from an open celled polyurethane foam.

9. The assembly of claim 6, wherein said first accommodating means comprises a pair of spaced apart apertures corresponding to the ischial tuberosities of a person.

5 10. The assembly of claim 6, wherein said second accommodating means comprises a pair of spaced apart apertures corresponding to the ischial tuberosities.

10 11. The assembly of claim 6, wherein said third accommodating means comprises a pair of spaced apart apertures corresponding to the ischial tuberosities.

15 12. The assembly of claim 6, wherein said fourth accommodating means comprises an aperture for accommodating the ischial tuberosities.

13. The assembly of claim 6, wherein said fifth accommodating means comprises an aperture for accommodating the ischial tuberosities.

14. The assembly of claim 11, where in said third flexible layer further includes a support positioned between said spaced apart apertures and extending rearwardly to enhance the weight distribution of the person seated on said assembly.

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15. The assembly of claim 6, wherein said fourth flexible layer consists of a plurality of separate foam sections composed from materials having different physical properties.

10 16. The assembly of claim 6, further comprising a median divider, located beneath said second flexible layer, for positioning the legs of a person seated upon said assembly.

15 17. The assembly of claim 6, wherein said rigid planar layer contains a plurality of apertures located forward of said fifth accommodating means.

20 18. The assembly of claim 17, further comprising a fifth flexible layer located adjacent said rigid planar layer of the side opposite said fourth flexible layer, having sixth means aligned with said first, second, third, fourth and fifth accommodating means for accommodating the ischial tuberosities of the person, and a plurality of raised protrusions associated with said plurality of

apertures within said rigid planar layer for positioning said assembly upon said horizontal support.

19. The assembly of claim 6, wherein said fourth flexible layer contains a cutout section adjacent said fourth accommodating means for positioning the coccyx of the person seated upon the assembly.